

March 29, 2019

Summary of Surface Water Sampling Results (March 21, 2019)

Surface Water Sampling:

EPA is conducting surface water sampling during the Intercontinental Terminals Company response. The surface water samples were collected from five locations in Buffalo Bayou on March 21, 2019. The samples were analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, chemical oxygen demand, and oil & grease. The results from the sampling event were compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Surface Water Quality Standards (WQS), or to TCEQ Texas Risk Reduction Program surface water protective concentration levels (PCLs), if a WQS was not available for a chemical. The surface water sample collected from the confluence of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bay exceeded the PCLs for oil & grease, naphthalene, benzene and total xylenes. PFAS was detected in all five surface water samples with the highest concentration from the sample collected at the confluence of Tucker Bayou and Buffalo Bayou. No WQS or PCL is available for PFAS; however, EPA is currently developing health-based comparison values for these chemicals.